INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State Pol 14 VIETS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 1599

REF: A. SAIGON 84 B. SAIGON 896 C. SAIGON 1483

1. SECOND POSTING OF UPPER HOUSE SLATES TOOK PLACE JULY 21. IN ALL, CENTRAL ELECTION COUNCIL DISQUALIFIED 12 OUT OF 60 LISTS REMAINING IN RACE. THUS 48 SLATES WERE POSTED.

2. AMONG MORE PROMINENT SLATES DISQUALIFIED WERE THOSE OF DR. NGUYEN DUY TAI (LIST 27) AND HO HUU TUONG (LIST 31, BOTH OF WHICH WOULD HAVE APPEALED TO MILITANT BUDDHIST VOTERS. LABOR SLATE OF TRAN HUU QUYEN (LIST 45) ALSO DISQUALIFIED.

3. A NUMBER OF SLATES AND CANDIDATES WERE RETAINED DESPITE SERIOUS COMPLAINTS AGAINST THEM. CENTRAL ELECTION COUNCIL

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PAGE 2 RUMJIR 1599 C O N F I D E N T I A L
INITIALLY RULED UNFAVORABLY ON SLATE OF LA THANH NGHE (LIST 2) ON GROUNDS THAT KHOANG TRONG VINH HAD PAST ASSOCIATIONS WITH VC. COUNCIL LATER REVERSED DECISION UNDER PRESSURE FROM NUMEROUS QUARTERS. COUNCIL WAS LENIENT TOWARDS A NUMBER OF RETIRED GENERALS ASSOCIATED WITH 1966 BUDDHIST "STRUGGLE" DESPITE INITIAL REPORTS THAT THEY MIGHT BE DISQUALIFIED. THUS, TON THAT DINH, NGUYEN VAN CHUAN AND HUYNH VAN CAO REMAIN IN UPPER HOUSE RACE.

(1)

. DETAILED REPORT ON LISTS REMAINING IN SENATORIAL RACE WILL BE SUBMITTED BY SEPARATE MESSAGE. BUNKER
BT

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Sgubeng DATE 10/5/81
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON (S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
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